

*ABSTRACT AMENDMENT*

Replace the Abstract with:

A first transistor is turned on when an H-level signal is input. ~~Voltage of a~~ A power supply ~~V<sub>m</sub>~~ voltage is applied to a gate electrode of a first switching element to thereby charge a miller capacitance of the first switching element. As a result, gate voltage of the first switching element rises gradually and the first switching element is turned on. In this manner, the first switching element is controlled so that a switching speed of the first switching element decreases. During this time, ~~level of a through-type~~ current caused by a backward recovery current of a fly-wheel diode connected to the first switching element is ~~lowered~~ reduced. ~~If~~ When the gate voltage of the first switching element exceeds ~~the~~ a logic inversion voltage, ~~then~~ the first switching element is controlled so that the switching speed is increased.